

REMARKS

The Office Action of March 25, 2002, has been fully considered by the Applicant. The Examiner has therein set forth a restriction requirement dividing the pending claims into five (5) groups.

Applicant traverses the restriction requirement on the basis that all of the claims could be simply and easily considered together. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Applicant elects Claims 9 and 10 directed towards an apparatus for punching holes. Applicant cancels Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 without prejudice to its rights, and reserves the right to file one or more additional divisional applications.

It is believed that the foregoing is fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action. It is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Unless the undersigned has misinterpreted the Office Action, this amendment should place the claims in condition for allowance. If, for any reason, the claims are not in condition for allowance it is because of a mistake or a misunderstanding of the Office Action and, in such case, Examiner Figueroa is invited to call the undersigned at (918) 587-2000 so that any remaining amendments to place the application in condition for allowance can hopefully be achieved in a telephone interview.

Please charge or credit any fees during the prosecution of this application to Deposit Account No. 08-1500.

Respectfully Submitted



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Clean Version of Pending Claims:

9. An apparatus for punching holes through a transported continuous film comprising:
- a framework,
 - a plurality of rollers attached to said framework;
 - an optical encoder attached to at least one roller within said plurality of rollers;
 - a punch assembly connected to said framework;
 - a solenoid valve connected to said punch assembly;
 - a compressed air source connected to said solenoid valve.
10. The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising:
- a plurality of solenoid valves connected to a plurality of punch assemblies; said plurality of punch assemblies connected to said framework;
 - a computer communicably attached to said apparatus for punching holes through a transported continuous film.

Marked-Up Version of Claims:

- [1. A system for punching holes through a continuous film comprising:
- a framework to facilitate transport of said continuous film;
 - an optical encoder mounted to a sensing roller; said sensing roller connected to a shaft and said framework and rotated via contact with said transported continuous film;
 - a plurality of transport rollers connected to shafts and said framework; said rollers rotated via contact with said transported continuous film;
 - software for signaling the punching of holes through said transported continuous film.]
- [2. A method system for punching holes through a continuous film comprising:
- determining a hole pattern to be punched through a continuously transported film;
 - determining a punching location for punching said determined hole pattern through said continuously transported film;
 - signaling the punching of said determined hole pattern through said continuously transported film at said determined punching location;
 - punching said determined hole pattern through said continuously transported film at said determined punching location.]
- [3. The method of claim 2 wherein said determining a punching location for punching said determined hole pattern through said continuously transported film further comprises;
- communication of a signal from an optical scanner to a computer; said signal indicating travel measures of said continuously transported film;
 - analyzing said communicated travel measures;

signaling the punching of a determined hole pattern whenever said analyzed travel measures reveal the presence of a punching location for punching said determined hole pattern through said continuously transported film.]

[4. The method of claim 2 wherein said signaling the punching of said determined hole pattern through said continuously transported film at said determined punch location further comprises the signaling and punching of a variable hole pattern through said continuously transported film at said determined punch location.]

[5. A computer program for punching holes through a transported continuous film comprising:
a code segment for determining an appropriate punching location for punching holes through said continuously transported film;
a code segment for signaling the punching of said holes through said continuously transported film at said appropriate punching location.]

[6. The computer program for punching holes through a transported continuous film according to claim 5 wherein said inputting a pre-selected hole pattern to be punched through said continuously transported film and further comprises the inputting and punching of a plurality of said pre-selected hole patterns.]

[7. The computer program for punching holes through a transported continuous film according to claim 5 wherein said determining an appropriate location for punching a hole pattern through said continuously transported film further comprises:

repeated punching of said pre-selected hole pattern for subsequent punching operations following first occasion of punching a hole pattern through said continuously transported film.]

[8. The computer program for punching holes through a transported continuous film according to claim 7 wherein said inputting a pre-selected hole pattern to be punched through said continuously transported film and further comprises the inputting and punching of a plurality of said pre-selected hole patterns.]

9. An apparatus for punching holes through a transported continuous film comprising:

a framework,

a plurality of rollers attached to said framework;

an optical encoder attached to at least one roller within said plurality of rollers;

a punch assembly connected to said framework;

a solenoid valve connected to said punch assembly;

a compressed air source connected to said solenoid valve.

10. The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising:

a plurality of solenoid valves connected to a plurality of punch assemblies; said plurality of punch assemblies connected to said framework;

a computer communicably attached to said apparatus for punching holes through a transported continuous film.

[11. A punched film produced according to the process of claim 2.]

[12. A punched film according to claim 11 wherein said film is essentially of polyethylene composition.]

[13. A punched film according to claim 11 wherein said film is essentially of non-polyethylene composition.]

[14. A punched film produced according to the process of claim 3.]

[15. A punched film produced according to the process of claim 4.]